

Let's Learn at Home

Fun things to
do this week



Lancashire Early Years Consultants Team

Children under 3 years old



What do we need?

- Different size sponges for children to grasp
- Apron
- Large tray or plastic cloth to protect table
- Different coloured paints
- Paper (optional)

What do we do?

- Place an apron over your child to protect their clothing
- Pour blobs of paint onto a tray or on to table. You can also use paper for your child to make their marks on
- Provide a variety of sponges for your child to choose from
- Sit back and watch your child make marks with the paint
- As an extension to their play provide a running commentary of what they are doing e.g. "Your sponge is going round and round."
- Provide other sensory experiences, e.g. rice, dry semolina or tapioca for them to make marks in

What are we learning?

- Exploring different textures
- Fine motor skills
- Creativity
- Hand eye co-ordination
- Stimulating the senses
- How to express feelings and emotions through their marks

Children 3 to 5 years old



What do we need?

- Different materials to make marks in e.g. flour, sand, glitter instant coffee powder and drinking chocolate
- Large tray
- Apron
- Mark making utensils e.g. fingers, small sticks/twigs, feathers, leaves, pegs, toothbrush, paint brush, lollipop sticks, cut out card, uncooked pasta, teaspoon, and plastic fork

What do we do?

- Allow child to choose what material they would like to make their marks in
- Provide a variety of mark making tools for the child to choose from
- Observe the marks they are making
- Observe which tool is their preference and how they use it
- Describe to the child the marks they are making
- Allow the child time to experience and experiment the sensory elements to this type of play
- To extend play, let your child mix the materials and see what happens

What are we learning?

- Beginning to give meanings to their marks
- Hand eye co-ordination
- Experimenting with a range of tools to make marks
- Fine motor skills
- Gross motor skills
- Coordination and dexterity
- Imitating shapes and patterns



What do we need?

Painting with water

This is one of those activities that you can simply hand over the materials and let your child have fun with it. You'll no doubt be surprised with what **creative** ways they can paint with water.

- Bucket of water
- Different sized paint brushes
- Paint rollers
- Sponges

What do we do?

- Let your child experiment with the brush and water
- Paint on the path, fence or wall
- Draw stripes, circles and swirls.
- Write their name
- Talk about what your child has drawn using lots of descriptive language
- Talk about length and size
- Allow your child to experiment by flicking, dripping, blowing and splattering



What are we learning?

- Early writing skills
- Creativity
- How to experiment and predict
- Maths
- Extending vocabulary
- Language skills
- Having FUN

